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- 1:25 Sister Teresita was born [Ann Marie] to Bridget and Patrick Durkan, a carpenter, [on December 13, 1918 in Tourmakeady, County Mayo, Ireland].
- 3:35 Gaelic was spoken in the home largely because her grandmother lived with them. Sister Teresita's father began to encourage the girl to speak English, as he thought it was necessary for her future.
- 7:10 English soldiers once searched her bedroom when she was a child [during the Anglo-Irish conflict].
- 8:00 She recites a song in Gaelic.
- 10:35 She came to a decision about a missionary vocation during her teenage years.
- 14:35 Joining the Catholic Sisters of Mercy, Sister Teresita received a student visa allowing her a three year stay in the U.S. Later she crossed into Mexico in lay clothes (the habit was not allowed in Mexico) to revise her visa.
- 17:05 She and her fellow postulants traveled from Ireland by boat and train to Sacramento.
- 18:50 [telephone interruption]
- 21:00 The postulants lived at St. Joseph's Convent at 9th and G Streets.
- 25:00 After the three year testing period nine postulants were left to become novices.
- 28:00 The sisters kept some Irish traditions such as cooking a holiday Goose and baking Irish bread.
- 30:35 A few of the sisters spoke Gaelic among themselves.

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- :20 In the late 1930s there were two other orders in Sacramento besides the Sisters of Mercy. They were the Franciscans at 26th and K Streets and the Holy Cross Sisters at Immaculate Conception. The Franciscans

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were mostly German. Some of the Holy Cross Sisters were Irish.

- 2:00 The Sisters of Mercy, then at St. Joseph's Academy and at Sister's Hospital [Mater Misericordiae], managed their two apostolates separately, but lived as one community.
- 4:50 Sister Teresita attended Holy Names College in Oakland and, after accreditation, taught at the newly opened Sacred Heart School.
- 6:00 In 1948 she went to Redding to run a parish school there for nine years. She then was principal at Holy Spirit School in Sacramento for three years.
- 7:20 In 1959 she became director of Novitiates at the Auburn Motherhouse for the Sisters of Mercy.
- 8:00 In 1962 she was elected to Superior General of the Community. She held the position for twelve years, during which time she had to deal with the effects of Vatican II.
- 14:30 The removal of the Motherhouse to Auburn was initially seen by many sisters as a move of a great distance.
- 16:30 The buildings were completed at the Motherhouse in three stages.
- 19:00 After her work in Auburn, Sister Teresita worked in Roseville, and for the last three years she has lived in Sacramento and worked with lay ministry groups.
- 21:00 Sister Teresita taught Irish dancing to parish children [in the 1930s and 1940s] who were going to perform at the St. Patrick's Day Ball.
- 23:25 The Sisters of Mercy celebrated the day, which was a diocesan holiday, with an Irish-American meal of ham and cabbage (more authentic than corned beef). They also made a point to serve a dish suited to the tastes of the American nuns.
- 26:40 Sister Teresita never expected to return to Ireland.

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However, after twenty-five years she made a visit there. Sisters are now provided a trip back every four years. Yet, they retire where their work has been. The priests do not have the same ties to community and have the option of retiring to Ireland.